

Summary

The purpose of this environmental assessment (EA) is to assist in the decision-making process by assessing the environmental and human affects resulting from implementing the proposed project and/or alternatives which include the installation of vault toilets. The EA will also assist in determining if an environmental impact statement (EIS) needs to be prepared or if a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is appropriate.

There are five proposed locations identified in this EA for the installation of CXT prefabricated vault toilets. These areas are located in the Phoenix Field Office and include: The Agua Fria National Monument at the Badger Springs Wash Trail Head and off the Bloody Basin Road near Silver Creek; the Sonoran Desert National Monument at the East Margie's Cove trail head and at Gap Well; and at the Vulture Peak trail head near Wickenburg.

Purpose and Need for the Proposal

Human waste and discarded toilet paper have the potential to become both health and environmental issues. Installing vault toilets maintains a quality and visual pleasing environment for visitors; protects visitors from potential pathogens and serious health hazards; and keeps our lands, washes, tributaries, and rivers clean of human waste. Human waste is toxic and can spread hepatitis and harbors parasites such as giardia.

As the Greater Phoenix area continues to grow visitor use continues to increase on public lands. Designations of the Agua Fria National Monument and the Sonoran Desert National Monument draw additional visitors from throughout the country. Providing comfort facilities for the visiting public allows for a cleaner and more enjoyable experience.

Human waste was noted in the top ten of recreation site impacts within the Sonoran Desert National Monument (Foti et al, 2005). With the expanding metropolitan area surrounding public lands, primary use will be recreation and primary impacts will be related to recreational use. Interest in outdoor resource-based recreation has resulted in the need to ensure protection of the resource. This protection takes several forms, including the preservation of natural environments to protect natural features for their own sake as well as to maintain the integrity of the environment (Andereck, et. al, 2002). The purpose of the proposed action is to prevent degradation of the

environment due to human waste as recreation use develops. This would be accomplished by installing vault toilets at popular use areas.

Conformance with Land Use Plans

This EA tiers to the following documents:

Phoenix Resource Management Plan (1988), “All waters on public land will meet or exceed federal and state water quality standards.”

Amendment and Environmental Assessment to the Lower Gila North Management Framework Plan and the Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan (2005)
“Authorize facilities and maintenance to protect resource values and improve visitor safety and recreational opportunities.”

Maricopa Complex Wilderness Management Plan (2000): “Management prescriptions for trail heads and areas outside of wilderness boundaries will be established as necessary as per rules for conduct on public lands addressed at 43 CFR 8365” (35): [s]et forth rules of conduct for the protection, comfort, and well-being of the public in its use on public lands.

Arizona Statewide Wild and Scenic Rivers Legislative Environmental Impact Statement, BLM, (1994): “The BLM has recommended the segment of the Agua Fria River within the Agua Fria National Monument as suitable for designation under the Wild and Scenic River Act. Consistent with this recommendation, proposed management actions must address the protection of outstanding wildlife, cultural, and scenic values within ¼ mile on either side of the river.

Guidance within the Monuments:

National Monument Interim Guidance (IM WO-2002-008): Installation of the vault toilets on the national monuments complies with this guidance because they will help protect and enhance monument resources.

Alternatives Considered

Alternative A – Current Management (No Action)

This alternative provides for no installation of vault toilets.

Alternative B – Installation of Vault Toilets (Preferred)

This proposed action includes installing vault toilets at: two sites in the Agua Fria National Monument (1) Badger Springs Wash Trail Head, (2) Silver Creek area off Bloody Basin Road; two sites in the Sonoran Desert National Monument (1) East Margie's Cove, (2) Gap Well; and the Vulture Peak Area. Site specific locations are identified below:

Agua Fria National Monument

Badger Springs Wash Trail Head: Joes Hill Quad; T. 10 N., R. 2 E., section 24, SE/NW

Bloody Basin Road, near Silver Creek: Joes Hill Quad; T. 10 N., R. 3 E., section 17, S½/SE/NE

Sonoran Desert National Monument

Gap Well: Cotton Center SE Quad; T. 5 S., R. 3 E., section 11, NE/NW/NE/SE

East Margie's Cove: Butterfield Pass Quad; T. 4 S., R. 2 W., section 16 NW/SE

Phoenix Field Office

Vulture Peak near parking facility: Vulture Peak Quad; T. 6 N., R. 5 W., section 7 SW/NE

Descriptions of the CXT brand vault toilets, requirements to installation, and providing for vehicle control and visitor safety will be described below.

Earth tone colors will allow the facilities to blend into the surroundings. The design is vandal resistant and handicapped accessible while other brands because of building materials used rate lower for vandal resistance. Vandal resistance criteria become one of the primary concerns when these facilities are placed in remote areas. These units are constructed of concrete to withstand pressures from flooding. This brand of toilet appears to incorporate environmental design however it lacks the solar capabilities. The requirement to maintain a solar facility is not practical due to the remoteness of the sites.

Dimensions of the precast vaults are as follows:

Single Vault: Gunnison Model; Length 14'-7.5"; Width 6'-6"; Depth* 4'-9"

Double Vault: Tioga Model (both with and without chase); Length 14'-4"; Width 11'-11"; Depth* 4'-9"

** All depth measurements given are from finished floor elevation to exterior base of vault slab (4" vault slab, 4' vault depth, 5" floor slab).*

Actual dimensions of excavation should allow a foot of working room around all sides of the building for vault placement. Avoid over-excavation. Actual depth of excavation should place final floor approximately 6" above ground elevation to allow final grading to slope away from building.

The double and single unit CXT toilet facilities will require shallow excavation of a hole, compaction of the base, backfill and compaction around the vaults once installation is completed. Facilities will be placed with visual sensitivity being foremost. The toilets could be removed in the future, if conditions warrant.

A BLM staff member would be present during excavation to oversee the installation.

To prepare the site, some vegetation will need to be cleared and the area will be leveled. Universal access guidelines will be implemented. It may be necessary to install barrier posts to guide vehicles and place around the facility to protect the building from vehicles. Specifically in the Agua Fria National Monument a level pull off area will be established adjacent to the restroom at the Bloody Basin site. Although a parking area exists at the Badger Springs Wash Trail head, some ground work will be needed including leveling off the parking area and providing access to the facility. Other proposed sites are adjacent to parking facilities or are easily accessed via trail. Once the toilets are usable, cyclic maintenance such as pumping, sanitizing, barrier replacement and signing will take place.

Scoping Issues Relevant to the Preferred Alternative

Several issues were raised by the BLM's interdisciplinary planning team during the project planning and from the scoping process addressed in this EA:

? Need for compatibility of the toilet design and installation with the existing character of the planned areas.

? Allow flexibility to incorporate landscape principles into design elements of facilities especially for the monuments so they will blend into the environment and compliment the landscape.

?Provide for wildlife needs and requirements. Avoid installation of facility at Vulture Peak between February 1st and May 1st to protect reproductive success of golden eagles, prairie falcons, barn owls, and great horned owls.

?Meet CXT Industries installation requirements.

?Placing toilets in the Monuments will change the image of the monuments from a wildlands and remote experience, to a more accessible and tame experience where there are facilities.

?Use only environmentally sensitive, low impact technology in the monuments. Any toilets installed should utilize solar and other environmentally sound technologies.

Beyond the scope of this EA

?Lack of sufficient funding to remedy other uses by hiring additional law enforcement and rangers to interact with the public and to provide inventories for existing resources.

Environmental Consequences

Only substantive site specific environmental changes that would result from implementing the proposed action or alternatives are discussed in this chapter. The proposed action would have minimal or no effects on the ecological components not addressed. Similarly, unless addressed specifically the following were found not to be affected by the proposed action or alternatives: air quality; areas of critical environmental concern; Native American religious concerns; wild and scenic rivers, prime or unique farmlands; flood plains; noxious weeds, hazardous wastes, grazing, and environmental justice. No person or group of people will experience a disproportionate share of environmental consequences from not implementing the proposed action. No impacts to energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution would result from not implementing the proposed action.

Alternative A, Current Management, No Action Alternative

Cultural

Agua Fria National Monument:

There would be no impacts to cultural resources.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

There would be no impacts to cultural resources.

Vulture Peak:

There would be no impacts to cultural resources.

Recreation

Agua Fria National Monument:

The public would not have comfort facilities. This would increase their sense of naturalness but pose a health and safety concern as more people use these areas. Loss of foreground aesthetics and environmental quality within the recreation areas would result.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

The public would not have comfort facilities. This would increase their sense of naturalness but pose a health and safety concern as more people use these areas. Loss of foreground aesthetics and environmental quality within the recreation areas would result.

Vulture Peak:

The public would not have comfort facilities. This would increase their sense of naturalness but pose a health and safety concern as more people use these areas. Loss of foreground aesthetics and environmental quality within the recreation areas would result.

Visual Resource Management

Agua Fria National Monument

Without the facility the landscape will remain unaltered. Human waste and paper would continue to be noticed.

Sonoran Desert National Monument

Without the facility the landscape will remain unaltered. Human waste and paper would continue to be noticed.

Vulture Peak:

Without the facility the landscape will remain unaltered. Human waste and paper would continue to be noticed.

Biological Resources

Agua Fria National Monument:

There may be a potential from human waste to negatively impact aquatic life specifically in the Agua Fria National Monument. Introducing these wastes into surface waters could negatively impact aquatic species such as fish and amphibians.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

There may be a potential from human waste to negatively impact aquatic life specifically in the Agua Fria National Monument. Introducing these wastes into surface waters could negatively impact aquatic species such as fish and amphibians.

Vulture Peak:

There may be a potential from human waste to negatively impact aquatic life specifically in the Agua Fria National Monument. Introducing these wastes into surface waters could negatively impact aquatic species such as fish and amphibians.

Soils and Water

Agua Fria National Monument:

Human waste harbors pathogens and is a potential source of serious health hazards. These waste products could make their way to water tables through rain and runoff and pollute washes, tributaries, and rivers.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

Human waste harbors pathogens and is a potential source of serious health hazards. These waste products could make their way to water tables through rain and runoff and pollute washes, tributaries, and rivers.

Vulture Peak:

Human waste harbors pathogens and is a potential source of serious health hazards. These waste products could make their way to water tables through rain and runoff and pollute washes, tributaries, and rivers.

Wilderness

Agua Fria National Monument

No wilderness present.

Sonoran Desert National Monument

East Margie's Cove is located in a cherry stem of the North Maricopa Mountains Wilderness. No effect on wilderness or wilderness values.

Vulture Peak:

No wilderness adjacent to this area.

Alternative B, Proposed Action

Cultural

Agua Fria National Monument:

The Bloody Basin site near Silver Creek and the Badger Springs Wash near the trail head were inspected and neither installation would impact cultural resources. The locations are outside the ¼ mile requirement for the Wild and Scenic River criteria, would not affect cultural resource values, and would not be visible from the river.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

East Margie's Cove and Gap Well sites were inventoried and project files 12-207 and 12-246 indicated no cultural resources were found in these areas. There would be no impact to cultural resources.

Vulture Peak:

The entire recreation site at Vulture Peak was inventoried and no cultural resources were found. There would be no impact to cultural resources.

Recreation

Adding toilet facilities at these key sites would provide for visitor aesthetics and visitor services while addressing potential health and safety concerns associated with uncontained human waste. Visitors may feel more apt to enjoy their stay. Environmental quality would be maintained within these use areas. Placement of the facility would be close to facilities such as roads, parking areas, and trail heads and would keep use concentrated among these features. Accessibility would be incorporated into the approach to the building. These facilities were selected to provide the greatest durability for the people and to curtail vandalism because these facilities consist of a solid block building with the vault toilet. There are no other extraneous features which could be a target for vandalism. Adding the facility would not be indicative to increasing the recreation use in any of the selected areas. Increased use would result as the Greater Phoenix Area continues to grow while its residents seek open space benefits and outcomes. Within the national monuments

growth will occur as people become more aware of these areas. The Monuments will prove to be a special place where visitors would enjoy the desert landscape in a huge urban environment. The primary use of the Monuments will be recreation, whether viewing scenery or archaeological sites, and the primary impacts will be related to recreation use (Foti et. al).

Agua Fria National Monument:

Badger Springs Wash Trail head: The toilet facility would be installed at the trail head. This facility would serve as the focal point of many visitors beginning or ending their outdoor recreation pursuit. The main uses at this non-motorized trail head are hiking, viewing petroglyphs, and viewing scenery. The trail leads the hiker down a canyon to the Agua Fria River where the visitor may enjoy a tranquil experience in a remote area. This experience would not be influenced by the installation of the facility. The hike is less than one mile and is the most popular area to hike within the monument according to the information contained in the visitor register logs. Existing facilities at this specific site include: a parking area, two-tracked road which dead ends into barbed wire fencing and a cattle barrier, a portal sign, and a visitor register box. The existing two-track road beyond the parking area would be closed to motorized use since the facility would be placed on the existing loop of this road. This two-track road would be graded to meet accessibility requirements from the parking area to the restroom, covering an area of approximately 300 feet. There would be no new trail construction. A vehicle barrier would be placed at the junction of the parking area and the two-track road which currently leads to the hiking trail while allowing for walk in traffic. The impact of the toilet facility would reduce the naturalness of the immediate area. The refinement of the existing two-track to meet accessibility requirements would result in more level access. The vehicle barrier would impact vehicle access and eliminate motorized access to the physical trail head. The parking area would be leveled and enhanced to eliminate the accumulation of water after heavy rains.

Bloody Basin near Silver Creek: This selected site is one of a few of the most popular camping areas off of Bloody Basin Road. It is located due south of Silver Creek and west of the Bloody Basin Road. Numerous campfire rings are within a 50 foot radius of the proposed site. Discarded toilet paper exists buried underneath rocks or displayed on the brush. In addition a large group camp site exists on the east side of the road. Visitors enroute to areas of interest within the monument often need a comfort stop after traveling over five miles on a bumpy road. This facility is far enough from the interstate to cater to the needs of the monument's visitors while its impact on the landscape would be minimal. Vistas are one of the monument's resources and the appreciation of open space is valued among visitors. The

placement of this facility would reduce the impact to the view shed while maximizing its use in one its most popular clustered recreation use areas. Impacts to the overall naturalness of the landscape would be minimal. The facility would impact the current use of the area by providing a comfort station but would not increase visitation to the monument, but may increase the number of visitors at this area. As a result there may be more trash in the area but the discarded toilet paper would now be properly disposed of.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

Gap Well: This area receives tremendous camping pressure. The location of the facility is approximately ¼ mile south from the Butterfield Stage Trail. However existing brush would help screen out this facility from trail users. This area is easily accessible via a two-track road off Route 238. Hiking, equestrian, and OHV are other uses. With the existing range developments and heavy camping use this area receives the facility's impact to the naturalness of the area would be minimal. It may impact the time some visitors spend in this area by aiding their biological needs, but it would not increase visitation.

East Margie's Cove Trail Head: A vehicle parking area services the trail head. The trail head is the focal point for addressing visitor comfort. Recreation activities taking place at this trail head include wilderness activities such as hiking. The placement of the facility would minimally impact the sense of naturalness in this area because the facility is shielded by the topography. It would be placed at the immediate area of the parking lot that may reduce the sense of naturalness for some visitors. The facility may impact the time some visitors spend in this area by aiding their biological needs but it would not increase visitation.

Vulture Peak:

The project is located at the trail head in a previously disturbed and heavily used area by the recreating public. Camping, hiking, equestrian uses occur at this site. The parking area accommodates up to 15 vehicles. A ramada and picnic facilities exist. Located seven miles south of Wickenburg, Arizona, the trail meanders through classic Sonoran desert landscapes. Greatest use occurs from October through April. The facility would minimally impact the naturalness of this recreation area because of the existing recreation structures present. It may impact the time some visitors spend in the area by aiding their biological needs but would not increase visitation.

Visual Resource Management

Blending this prefabricated building into the landscape by selecting natural tones and placing it into the most desirable location to reduce visual impacts while working with delivery requirements resulted in the selected areas. This facility could be removed to accommodate for theme oriented facilities which would blend better into the landscape, especially within the national monuments. Ground disturbance would be minimized to protect vegetation. Placement of the facilities would result in maximizing topographic features and vegetation to hide and screen the facility and to maximize the overall visual quality of the view shed.

Agua Fria National Monument:

At the Badger Springs Wash site the facility would be placed in an already impacted area and off to the side of the view shed. The interim Visual Resource Management Class is determined as a Class III. The building will attract attention but will not dominate the view or attract attention as focus of scene; change to landscape view will be low. (See forms 8400-5 and 8400-6) Installation of a vehicle barrier and some road grading to meet accessibility requirements would impact the visual quality minimally. By removing the opportunity for vehicles to park adjacent to the physical trail head would minimally impact the visual quality. Associated visual impacts would be minimized to the extent possible to preserve the cultural landscape settings. The facility would be placed beyond the ¼ mile influence zone of the Agua Fria River which was determined suitable for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System and would not be visible from the river.

Building placement for the Bloody Basin site examined issues associated with use avoiding traffic from Interstate 17 that would be diverted into the Monument while providing for minimal visual effects. The facility would be placed next to the Bloody Basin Road near Silver Creek in a visually sheltered area so the impacts to the view shed would be minimal. Interim Visual Resource Management Class determined to be a Class III area. The toilet will cause weak contrast with soil, color of landscape, and will contrast with form, line, and color of the high voltage powerline, but will be weak with the powerline remaining dominant. The facility will pose a weak contrast with the landscape; it will be seen but not attract attention or dominate view of the casual observer. (See appendix Forms 8400-5 and 8400-6). At certain points within a less than a two linear mile stretch on Bloody Basin Road, the building may be visible; however it is sheltered at the base of the mesa and is not a prominent feature on the landscape due to the topography. The visual impacts should be minimal. Vegetation removal would be necessary to provide for access. This would minimally impact the site. The vehicle barriers which may be placed near the building would blend in with the facility and should impact the visual quality minimally. This site selection resulted in minimizing the visual affect to preserve the cultural landscape

settings. The facility would be placed beyond the ¼ mile influence zone of the Agua Fria River which was determined suitable for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System and would not be visible from the river.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

In the East Margie's Cove area, building placement was based on use and proximity to the parking area. Visual effects would be minimized as much as possible by the aid of the topography which would help shield the facility and the facility would not be seen from the access road. It is anticipated to cause weak contrast with form, line, and color of the landscape view. Building will not contrast with minor structures (kiosk, pipe rail fence, parking structures) on site. Toilet will attract attention, but will not dominate view. Visual impacts from ground disturbance would be minimal.

Existing range developments exist at Gap Well. Visual impacts to vegetation removal would be minimal. Visual impacts of the facility on the landscape would be noticeable however the existing brush would help screen out the facility and it would not dominate view and impact to scene will be low. Structure is expected to pose weak contrast with form, line, and color of landscape, and with form, line and color of old concrete tank. Associated visual impacts would be minimized to the extent possible to preserve the cultural landscape settings in the monument.

Vulture Peak

The restroom would be installed adjacent to the parking area. The visual impacts on the landscape would be noticeable; however, visual impacts would be minimized through the site selected. The toilet is expected to pose weak contrast with the form and color of the landscape, and weak contrast with the form and line of existing structures on site (sign display and shade shelter). The degree of contrast will be low in overall view and the facility will attract attention but not dominate site.

Biological Resources

Agua Fria National Monument:

At the Badger Springs Wash Trail Head impacts would be negligible to the existing vegetation of prickly pear cactus, catclaw acacia, and other shrubs.

There are no known threatened, endangered, or candidate species in this vicinity.

Special status species include lowland leopard frogs, and during the wet years, longfin dace move into the area from the Agua Fria River. These species should not be affected if the toilet vault does not leak.

The facility would be located in a pronghorn movement corridor. The area is heavily used and the addition of this facility is not expected to increase public use of the area, rather the facility should reduce the impacts of the existing use. Adverse impacts to pronghorn are not expected to increase from current levels.

Because the project has minimal impact to vegetation and does not directly impact the riparian area it is not expected to impact migratory birds.

At the Bloody Basin Road near Silver Creek site impacts would be negligible to the existing vegetation of a few live oak, catclaw acacia, and other shrubs.

The Gila chub, a proposed endangered fish occurs approximately 1.5 miles upstream in Silver Creek. These fish have never been recorded in the section of the creek near the proposed project because of the presence of predaceous non-native fish and lower Silver Creek is usually dry. It is not expected to be affected by the project.

The Yellow-billed cuckoo, a Federal candidate species, does nest in the riparian area at the confluence of Silver Creek and the Agua Fria River, approximately ¼ mile downstream of the project area. It is not expected to be affected by the project.

There are no other threatened, endangered, or candidate species in the vicinity of the project.

Because the project has minimal impact to vegetation and does not directly impact the riparian area, it is not expected to impact migratory birds.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

The project is within the distribution of the endangered cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl. The proposed action would not directly impact suitable habitat for this species because suitable habitat occurs more than ¼ mile from the project site.

The proposed action would have no effect to the cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl or any other threatened, endangered, or special status plant or wildlife species.

The site is adjacent to a Category I desert tortoise habitat but would have no direct or indirect impact to the habitat quality because recreation use of the area is not anticipated to increase because of this specific project.

At the Gap Well site there are no threatened, endangered, or special status plants or wildlife would be affected by the proposed action.

The project site is more than ¼ mile from suitable habitat for the endangered cactus ferruginous pygmy-owl.

Because the project has minimal impact to the vegetation, it is not expected to impact migratory birds.

The site is adjacent to a Category I desert tortoise habitat but would have no direct or indirect impact to the habitat quality because recreation use of the area is not anticipated to increase because of this specific project.

Vulture Peak:

No threatened, endangered, or special status species habitat exists in the vicinity.

The trail head area is located in Category II desert tortoise habitat but the project would not destroy or degrade habitat values for the tortoise.

Because the project has minimal impact to vegetation, it is not expected to impact migratory birds.

Soils and Water

Agua Fria National Monument:

The facility would be located near the Badger Springs Wash, an ephemeral stream. The water table is shallow but should remain below the vault level. The site is above the flood zone. The vault is sealed and not expected to leak into the adjacent water table. The installation of the vault would render a solution to the human wastes found along the riparian areas within the Badger Springs Wash.

At the Bloody Basin Road near Silver Creek site, the creek flows only in the spring or following rain. The proposed site is above the flood zone. The water table is relatively shallow but should remain below the vault level. The vault is sealed and

not expected to leak into the adjacent water table. By providing a vault toilet the human waste entering the riparian area and creek would greatly be reduced.

The vault privy would separate sewage effluent from soils and ground water. There would be no contamination. Water quality would be maintained.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

The East Margie's Cove site is located on a bajada at an existing trail head site. The vault privy would separate sewage effluent from soils and ground water. There would be no contamination. Water quality would be maintained.

Gap Well:

The project site is located on a bajada at the site of an old range development site. The vault privy would separate sewage effluent from soils and ground water. There would be no contamination. Water quality would be maintained.

Vulture Peak:

The vault privy would separate sewage effluent from soils and ground water. There would be no contamination. Water quality would be maintained.

Wilderness

Agua Fria National Monument:

There are no wilderness areas within the monument.

Sonoran Desert National Monument:

The East Margie's Cove site is the only site located near a wilderness area. It is located in a cherry stem of the North Maricopa Mountains Wilderness. The facility may affect the visitors' wilderness experience of solitude and naturalness.

Vulture Peak:

There are no wilderness areas adjacent to this area.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impact analysis is to evaluate impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, and future actions. Toilet facilities will be placed at existing areas where heavy use or parking areas already exist, with the exception of the Bloody Basin toilet. This area currently enables three vehicles to park near the proposed area, so adding two more parking

spaces will require the removal of some brush. These additions will be hidden in the landscape and visible for less than a two linear mile while traveling on the Bloody Basin Road. There are no plans to add other recreational facilities to this area because the public has expressed the need to keep this area undeveloped (Andereck, et.al 2002). The parking area would accommodate up to six vehicles. Visitation throughout the Phoenix Field Office will continue to grow. Adding facilities to these BLM areas will be based on collaboration with the public to address needs which will affect visitor satisfaction, benefits, and outcomes.

Cumulative impacts under the no action alternative would result in potential impacts to visitors and resource use. Toilet paper and human wastes would continue to accumulate. Litter problems would continue to escalate around popular wildcat outdoor rest area sites and would pose health and safety concerns.

Consultation and Coordination

A scoping letter was sent in February 2005 to a partial list of people on BLM's database who expressed an interest in the monuments or recreation.

Approximately 700 people, organizations, and businesses listed in this data base received a letter. Feedback from the public proved to be encouraging and supportive in installing these facilities.

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Public Responses :

A combined response from the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society
Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce
One response from the general public
One anonymous voice mail

References

- Andereck, Kathleen L., et. al. 2002. Agua Fria National Monument/Phoenix North Public Lands Visitor Study.
- Foti, Pam., et al. 2005. Sonoran Desert National Monument Recreation Impact Inventory Final Report.
- USDI – Bureau of Land Management. 1988. Proposed Phoenix Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement. Phoenix District, Arizona.
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- . 1995. Maricopa Complex Wilderness Management Plan, Environmental Assessment and Decision. Arizona State Office.
- . 2000. Final Amendment and Environmental Assessment to the Lower Gila North Management Framework Plan and the Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan. Phoenix Field Office, Arizona.
- . 2002. Interim Management Policy for Bureau of Land Management National Monuments and National Conservation Areas. Instructional Memorandum Number: WO-2002-008.

Appendix:

Visual Resource Management Forms